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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/017,963	12/12/2001	Victor Il'ich Kopp	1014-11	7374

7590 05/29/2003
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EXAMINER

STRECKER, GERARD R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2862

DATE MAILED: 05/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/017,963

Applicant(s)

KOPP ET AL

Examiner

G. R. STRECKER

Group Art Unit

2862

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- ☐ Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 2862

The patent applications referred to on page 8 of the specification should be identified by serial number and/or patent number.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1 and 6; at the last paragraph, recitation that the second polarization splitter means (splitter) is connected to the first and second lines is ambiguous since such language implies that the first and second polarization changing means (first and second chiral elements) are bypassed.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

At lines 12 and 13 it is not clear through what and to what, the signals at other wavelengths are passed.

Riza, Lauzon et al, Moslehi et al and Hwang et al are made of record to show optical systems with add-drop functions.

Giles et al is made of record to show an add-drop optical circuit with first and second polarization splitters and first and second polarization changing means.

The Prior Art fails to disclose or suggest an add-drop optical filter having an input polarization splitter, an output polarization splitter, and first and second polarizing changing

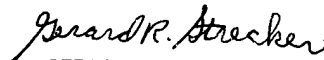
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means coupled between the input and output polarization splitters, wherein the input splitter receives a plurality of input signals at various wavelengths, a drop signal at a target wavelength and an add signal at said target wavelength, and the output polarization splitter directs polarization unchanged input signal polarized components and changed polarization add signal polarized components to an output means and directs changed polarization drop signal polarized components to a drop means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to G R Strecker at telephone number (703) 305-4937.

G R STRECKER/pj

05/27/03


GERARD R. STRECKER
PRIMARY EXAMINER